

The *Library Connection* online newsletter provides the public with information about upcoming events, major programs and other news of the City of San Diego Public Library. Anyone can sign up for this free monthly email announcement by visiting the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> and clicking on "News & Events."

**JULY 2005**

**VOLUME 3**

## Exhibit of Works by Noted Local Artist Ed Mix Now on Display

The Library is hosting an exhibit of works by Ed Mix from through July 10 at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library. "Ed Mix – Works on Paper" will feature more than 30 of the local artist's works that have never before been publicly displayed.

One of San Diego's most respected artists, Mix has been a presence on the local art scene for more than 50 years. His primary interest is the human figure. His energetic, abstracted forms executed in black ink brushed on paper are rendered directly from the model and are regarded as contemporary classics in gestural work. Occasionally Mix departs from the figure with non-objective compositions or augments his bold brushwork with vibrant washes of color. His style evokes comparison to abstract expressionist Franz Kline, but is instantly recognizable as his own. The works on display range from powerful black and white figure studies to bold and colorful abstract compositions.

A veteran of World War II, Mix attended the Chouinard Arts Institute in Los Angeles and the famed La Esmeralda art school in Mexico in the late 1940s and early 1950s before permanently settling in San Diego. Soft-spoken, shy and unassuming, Mix leads an unusually modest lifestyle, assiduously avoiding the art world spotlight and disdain-



*One of several works by artist Ed Mix now on display at the Pacific Beach/Hervey Branch Library.*

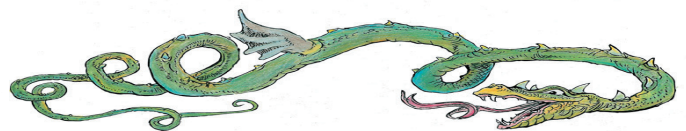
ing the idea of self-promotion. However, serious collectors prize his work and his fellow artists regard him as an inspiration.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch is located at 4275 Cass St. For more information, call 858-581-9934 or visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

## Summer Reading Program Continues with Magical Events and Super Prizes

The Library's citywide Summer Reading Program continues with a variety of fun activities and great prizes for reading. Summer is a great time to pick up a book and continue to improve reading skills, and this year's Summer Reading Program will focus on adventure and fun. The program continues through Aug. 15.

"Reading books is an especially important activity during the summer months with so many students on vacation from school," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "We invite all children and teens to take part in the Summer Reading Program



and discover all the great resources of the San Diego Public Library."

For children up to 12 years old, the theme of the program is "Dragons, Dreams & Daring Deeds." Kids who read 10 books will receive special prizes. The program's theme for teens is "Joust Read." Participants in grades 7-12 can receive prizes for reading books or writing short reviews of library materials and teen programs.

For more details about the free program, fun activities and about how to sign up, contact or visit your local library. More information is also available on the Library's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>.



## All Libraries Closed on Independence Day

All City of San Diego Public Library locations will be closed on Monday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Book drops at all libraries will remain open to allow patrons to return books and other materials.



## Class to Focus on Government Databases

A special computer training class focusing on state and local government will be held July 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. Fran Bookheim, of the Central Library's Social Sciences Section will lead an exploration of California's electronic resources via the Internet and find state resources to affordable housing, voter registration and unclaimed property. Classes limited to 15 participants. Reservations are required. Sign-up on or after July 1. Computer Lab of the Central Library, 820 E St., 619-238-6621.

## Author to Discuss "After Surfing Ocean Beach"

Author Mary Soderstrom will discuss and sign her latest novel, "After Surfing Ocean Beach," on July 27 at 6:30 p.m. Set in San Diego, the story involves Rick, who comes back to San Diego on family business and ends up killing another man in a moment of panic. He finds himself plunged into his past because the victim was not a stranger after all. A graduate of Point Loma High School, McGowan currently lives in Montreal and has published eight books. Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library, 3701 Voltaire St., 619-531-1539.

## Comic Book Sale at Paradise Hills Branch

More than 300 comic books will be for sale from July 1-31. Comic books will be priced \$2 to \$3 or as marked, and many way below listed prices in the collectors' guides. Most are in original condition and in protective sleeves, and some are rare and hard to find issues. Cash only, all sales final. Dealers are welcome. Proceeds will be used for library materials and programs. Paradise Hills Branch Library, 5922 Rancho Hills Drive, 619-527-3461.



## Exhibit of Prints Continues at Central Library

An exhibit of 63 works by 20 members of the North County Printmakers is on display through Aug. 15 in the Second Floor Corridor Gallery. The prints reflect a broad range of styles and techniques. Central Library, 820 E St., 619-236-5800.

## Oberon Trio to Perform July 17

The Oberon Trio will perform Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Dvorak selections on July 17 at 2:30 p.m. A \$5 donation is suggested. Scripps Miramar Ranch Branch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, 858-538-8158.

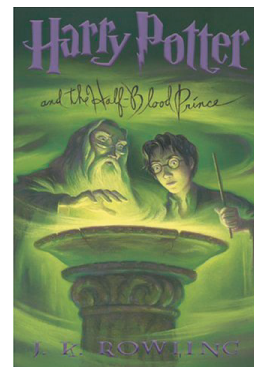
## Free Films at Libraries



The Library presents a variety of free films, many of which are independent or foreign films not widely distributed. Others are classic and family-friendly movies. For more information about films being shown, visit the Calendar of Events section on the Library's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>.

## New Harry Potter Book a Must-Read at Libraries This Summer

The soon-to-be-released book "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" will be in high demand at libraries. Although the Library has ordered 220 copies of the book (20 in large print), there are already 394 reserves for the children's novel. The release of the book coincides with the Library's Summer Reading Program and libraries will be hosting lots of fun activities, including Harry Potter-themed events. Besides the 220 copies of the much-anticipated sixth Harry Potter adventure by author J.K. Rowling, the Library will also have 37 copies on audio cassette and 37 copies on compact disc. Visit your local library to find out more.



## Author Sarah Wones Tomp to Read from Her Patriotic Picture Book

As part of a story time for children, local author Sarah Wones Tomp will read from her book "Red, White and Blue Goodbye" on July 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tierrasanta Branch Library, located at 4985 La Cuenta Drive. The reading will be followed by a crafts event.



Tomp was inspired to write her book by her good friends in the military, including her husband, Tom, a Navy Reserve officer. When a father ships out for six months and a young daughter has to say good-bye, it's very hard on both of them. She doesn't want to say good-bye, and he comforts her by pointing out certain images – the red flag on their mailbox, white clouds in the sky, and blue water – that will help her remember him. Ultimately, she learns that while having her father leave is hard, there are ways to stay connected with him.

For more information about the event, call the branch library at 858-573-1384.



# Three Documentaries to be Premiered at Central Library

The Library will host premiere screenings of three POV documentary films in July that focus on a small town divided by environmental issues vs. economic needs; a New York businessman who legally sent arms from the United States to Kosovo; and a mysterious artist who leaves behind a monumental amount of work.

On Sunday, July 10 at 2 p.m., the Library will show “**The Fire Next Time**,” which chronicles two years in the life of a dangerously divided town in northwest Montana where hate and intolerance manifest themselves in a community polarized by rapid change, economic displacement and environmental issues. The film records the reaction of the people of the

Flathead Valley, who were stunned when a domestic terror cell’s plot to kill local leaders was uncovered. Ex-cop Brenda Kitterman and environmentalist Mike Raiman wanted to do something to address the local tensions, but the community was torn. Many residents were losing their jobs in timber and mining, and blamed environmentalists. Adding fuel to the fire was a radio talk show host who declared environmentalists “an enemy... to be annihilated.” Over a stormy two-year period, “The Fire Next Time” follows a deeply divided group of citizens caught in a web of conflicts intensified by rapid growth and the power of talk radio. After the screening, a discussion will be facilitated.



*Ex-cop Brenda Kitterman protects her daughters Tricia and Elizabeth from extremist threats in Kalispell, Mont. Photo Credit: Robin Loznak*

The Library will show “**The Brooklyn Connection**” on July 18 at 6:30 p.m. It’s common knowledge that buying weapons in the United States is surprisingly easy. But what about outfitting a foreign guerilla army? Meet Florin Krasniqi, one of the driving forces behind Kosovo’s fight for independence. He lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., where he runs a successful roofing company. But he is leading a double life. “The Brooklyn Connection,” based on material from Stacy Sullivan’s book, “Be Not Afraid, For You Have Sons in America,” shows the terrifying ease with which this charming businessman raised \$30 million during the Kosovo War, purchased weapons across the USA, and shipped them legally to Albania to be smuggled into Kosovo. The war ended in 1999, but Krasniqi warns that there could be another struggle — with arms provided by this Brooklyn roofer.

On July 24 at 2:00 p.m., the Library will screen “**In The Realms of the Unreal**.” Reclusive janitor by day,



*Florin Krasniqi in a gunshop in St Mary’s, Penn. Photo Courtesy of Klaartje Quirijns*

visionary artist by night, outsider Henry Darger moved through life virtually unnoticed. But after his death, a treasure trove was discovered in his one-room Chicago apartment: a staggering 15,000-page novel and hundreds of illustrations that continue to inspire artists around the world. “In the Realms of the Unreal” immerses us in Darger’s startling universe of innocence and pain, showing how he forged magic out of the bleakest of lives. The film is an evocative glimpse into the inner life of an unknowable man. Questions of “happiness” aside, it’s clear that there was a lot more to Henry Darger than could have been guessed at by his neighbors and colleagues.

The Central Library is located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. For more information, call 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

*Since 1988 POV has brought the best of independent point-of-view documentaries to a national audience, featuring the work of America’s most innovative documentary filmmakers to build new communities in conversation about today’s most pressing social issues. For national PBS premieres of these documentaries, check local listings.*



*Illustration by Henry Darger, Untitled. Credit: © Kiyoko Lerner*



# Ona Russell to Discuss, Sign Her New Novel

The Library will host a book discussion and author appearance by Ona Russell on Wednesday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wangenheim Room of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

Russell will read from her "historical" mystery "O'Brien's Desk." If truth is stranger than fiction, then truth plus fiction equals a delightful literary page-turner in "O'Brien's Desk," a historical mystery based on real events in 1920s Ohio. Russell's grandfather-in-law was a prominent judge in Toledo during that time. When she came upon his secret collection of scrapbooks and newspaper clippings, she unraveled the fascinating true story of political intrigue and personal secrets that would become her first novel.

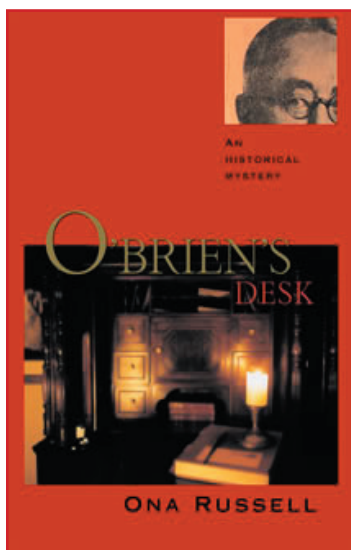
Best-selling author Anne Perry, says Russell's book is "An intriguing and thoroughly researched story that gives us insight into the moral dilemmas of 20th century



Author Ona Russell

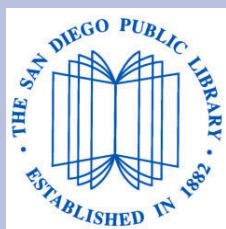
America." Russell holds a Ph.D. in literature from UCSD. She has published scholarly articles and currently teaches at UCSD Extension.

Copies of "O'Brien's Desk" will be available for purchase and signing by the author. For more information about the event, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City's Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.



## Even More Great Events and Programs!

For the very latest information about Library events, exhibits, activities and other programs, visit your local library or check out the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.



The mysteries of the Central Library await those who take the behind-the-scenes tour.

## Last Chance to Take Behind-the-Scenes Central Library Tour

The last chance for the general public to take a free, behind-the-scenes tour of the Central Library will be Saturday, July 9, beginning at 3 p.m.

The tour will be limited to 15 people to allow participants an up-close and personal experience. The tours began in June 2004 and were originally to be held only that month in celebration of the Central Library's 50th anniversary. However, they proved to be very popular and the tours were held for a year.

Highlights of the tour include:

- Rare visits to the building's two basement levels that contain more than 60 percent of the library's collection, including a few hidden treasures.
- Historical information about the Central Library and future plans for the new Main Library.
- Sneak peeks at how the library has served the public for five decades.

Tours of the Central Library will continue to be provided in the future for groups of five people or more by appointment only. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 619-236-5817 or by signing up at the Literature Desk of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

## Norteño Band to Perform at City Heights

Julian Briano y Sus Hermanos will perform their rollicking norteño music on July 8 at 6 p.m. This talented quartet, based in Chula Vista, gets the crowd dancing with their solid polka basslines and quick snare drum beats, while bandleader Julian Briano punches up the melody with his snappy button accordion and catchy vocals. The event will take place at the Performance Annex of the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library, located at 3795 Fairmount Ave. For information, call 619-641-6100.

